

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 MC-02 IGA-02 OMB-01 ACDA-07  
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
SSM-03 IO-13 /089 W  
-----008950 301556Z /41

R 301355Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6773  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 10929

E.O. 11652: GDS  
T UDUB MASS, IS  
SUBJECT: FAHMY ON NEW US MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL

1. AS REPORTED ELSEWHERE, I FOUND FAHMY IN A DEPRESSED AND PESSIMISTIC MOOD WHEN I MET WITH HIM YESTERDAY. SOME OF THE REASONS FOR HIS UNHAPPINESS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPORTED BY SEPTELS. ONE OTHER WAS THE NEWLY ANNOUNCED \$115 MILLION ADDITIONAL MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL.

2. REFERRING TO THIS, HE SARCASTICALLY ASKED WHETHER THE NEW MILITARY AID IS AGAIN BEING JUSTIFIED IN TERMS OF MAKING ISRAEL MORE RESPONSIVE TO OUR PEACE EFFORTS. HE HAD HEARD THIS ARGUMENT REPEATEDLY IN PAST FEW YEARS AND IT HAD ALWAYS PROVEN EMPTY. THE MORE ARMS THE US GIVES ISRAEL, THE MORE INTRANSIGENT ISRAEL BECOMES. THE HISTORY OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS DURING PAST FEW YEARS, HE CONTENDED, HAS SHOWN THIS TO BE THE CASE. MOREOVER, TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT, DURING PERIOD WHEN  
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BEGIN AND DAYAN WERE PUBLICLY SPEAKING OF ISRAELI INTENTION RETAIN WEST BANK, WAS ESPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE. IT HAS CAUSED CONSIDERABLE MISGIVINGS, NOT ONLY IN EGYPTIAN BUT IN OTHER ARAB MINDS.

3. I TOLD FAHMY THAT NEWLY ANNOUNCED MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL IS, TO BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, SIMPLY A CONTINUATION

OF SUCH ASSISTANCE PREVIOUSLY PROMISED. WE DO NOT EXPECT IT WILL CHANGE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE AREA. FAHMY'S RESPONSE WAS THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE. WHEN LARGE QUANTITIES OF MILITARY SUPPLIES ARE SENT TO ISRAEL, IT DOES NOT CHANGE BALANCE OF FORCES. WHEN A FEW C-130'S ARE GIVEN TO EGYPT, THERE IS HUE AND CRY IN CONGRESS AND PUBLIC THAT BALANCE OF FORCES THREATENS TO BE CHANGED. FOR PAST FOUR YEARS GOE HAS BEEN PROMISED US MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BUT--EXCEPT FOR SIX C-130S-- IT IS STILL WAITING. LATEST ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARMS FOR ISRAEL HAS, ACCORDING TO FAHMY, GENERATED STRONGLY NEGATIVE REACTION ON PART EGYPTIAN MILITARY AND PUBLIC, WHO ARE ONCE AGAIN CALLING INTO QUESTION USG PURPOSES.

4. I REMINDED HIM THAT USG IS COMMITTED TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL. WE HAVE NEVER CONCEALED THIS FROM HIM OR OUR ARAB FRIENDS. LATEST SALE CONSISTS OF CAREFULLY VETTED ITEMS AND HAS BEEN MADE IN CONTEXT OF OUR CONTINUING INTEREST IN ISRAEL'S SECURITY. MOREOVER, WHETHER HE AGREED OR NOT, WE DO BELIEVE THAT CONTINUING TO ASSIST ISRAEL IN MEETING HER LEGITIMATE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS HELPS FURTHER THE ME PEACE PROCESS. IT GIVES ISRAEL THE CONFIDENCE THAT IT NEEDS TO WORK WITH US IN SEEKING A JUST AND DURABLE PEACE.

5. FAHMY WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT, BUT DROPPED THE SUBJECT.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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